



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

TM02/0402

THOMAS W HUMPHREY  
WOOD HERRON & EVANS LLP  
2700 CAREW TOWER  
CINCINNATI OH 45202

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/332,846	06/14/99	030	ALVAREZ, R	2162 04/02/01
First Named Applicant	LANDRY, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PAYING BILLS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS INCLUDING SELECTIVE PAYOR AND PAYEE CONTROLS

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
2 MPS/30	705-040.000	E44	UTILITY	NO	\$1240.00	07/02/01

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

**HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:**

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

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# Notice of Allowability

Application No.  
09/332,846

Applicant  
George W. Landry

Examiner  
RAQUEL ALVAREZ

Group Art Unit  
2162



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to 3/15/01

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 42-56 and 74-88

☒ The drawings filed on Jun 14, 1999 are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

ERIC W. STAMBER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Art Unit: 2162

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-43 and 57-73 have been canceled. Claims 42-55 and 74-88 are presented for examination.
2. The terminal disclaimer filed on 10/24/2000 was received and entered.

### Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 42-56 and 74-88 are allowed.

The present invention comprises a system and method for paying bills without requiring interaction with the payor.

The closest prior art were Anderson(5,283,829, Anderson hereinafter)and publication titled, "Wells, compass Add Wrinkles; Bank of Oklahoma on Board"(hereinafter Wells Fargo).

Anderson discloses a system and method for paying bills electronically . The system includes an interactive payment approval apparatus into which subscribers dial to approve payments.

Wells Fargo discloses a system wherein the customer can set up the automatic payment of recurring bills, fixed-amount bills-like mortgage or cable television bills-or make one time payments of varying amounts.

Anderson and Wells Fargo fail to disclose the limitations of independent claims 42 and 74, which disclosed that the system **receives bill information from the payees and that the date of the transfer for at least one bill being determined absent payor intervention based on at**

Art Unit: 2162

**least one of bill data for the bill, stored payor information and stored payee information without regard to the due dates of the other bill.**


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Points Of Contact**

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raquel Alvarez whose telephone number is (703) 305-0456. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric W. Stamber, can be reached on (703) 305-8469. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-0040.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



Raquel Alvarez  
Patent Examiner, AU 2162

March 27, 2001